

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 8, 2006  
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 26, 2006  
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 17, 2006

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1543**

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**Introduced by Senator Alarcon**

February 23, 2006

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An act to add Section ~~66203.3~~ 66205.7 to the Education Code, relating to the high school curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1543, as amended, Alarcon. High school curriculum: high school coursework requirements.

Existing law, the Donahoe Higher Education Act, sets forth, among other things, the missions and functions of California's public and independent segments of higher education, and their respective institutions of higher education. Existing law establishes the University of California, under the administration of the Regents of the University of California, and the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, as 2 of the public segments of postsecondary education in this state. Provisions of the Donahoe Higher Education Act apply to the University of California only to the extent that the regents act, by resolution, to make those provisions applicable.

A provision of the act requires the California State University, and requests the University of California, to establish model academic standards for high school courses for pupils who wish to attend those institutions.

This bill would ~~prohibit~~ *express the intent of the Legislature that a campus of the University of California or the California State University from discriminating should not discriminate* against the curriculum choices of *high school* pupils for admissions purposes if that curriculum meets or exceeds rigorous standards approved by the State Board of Education. ~~The bill would require~~ *and that, if a high school pupil completes the required minimum coursework, as defined, determined necessary for admission to the University of California or the California State University, a campus of the respective segments shall should not penalize that pupil, for admissions purposes, if that pupil has completed high school coursework in career and technical education, fine arts, or any other coursework, as long as those courses have met or exceeded rigorous standards approved by the State Board of Education.*

~~Pursuant to existing law, this provision would apply to the University of California only to the extent that the regents act, by resolution, to make this provision applicable.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~yes~~ *no*. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section ~~66203.3~~ 66205.7 is added to the  
 2 Education Code, to read:  
 3 ~~66203.3. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a~~  
 4 ~~66205.7. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that both of the~~  
 5 ~~following should occur:~~  
 6 (1) A campus of the University of California or the California  
 7 State University ~~shall~~ *should* not discriminate against the  
 8 curriculum choices of *high school* pupils for admissions purposes  
 9 if that curriculum meets or exceeds rigorous standards approved  
 10 by the State Board of Education. ~~If a~~  
 11 (2) *If a high school pupil completes the required minimum*  
 12 *coursework determined necessary for admission to the University*  
 13 *of California or the California State University, a campus of the*  
 14 *respective segments shall should not penalize that pupil, for*  
 15 *admissions purposes, if that pupil has completed high school*  
 16 *coursework in career and technical education, fine arts, or any*  
 17 *other coursework, as long as those courses have met or exceeded*  
 18 *rigorous standards approved by the State Board of Education.*

- 1 (b) For the purposes of this section, “required minimum  
2 coursework” means all of the following:  
3 (1) Two years of history or social science.  
4 (2) Four years of college preparatory English or language  
5 instruction.  
6 (3) Three years of college preparatory mathematics.  
7 (4) Two years of laboratory science.  
8 (5) Two years of the same language other than English.  
9 (6) One year of a visual or performing art.  
10 (7) One year of college preparatory electives as specified.